2. A supplemental dose of assistance to those families assisted during the VI Plan who have not been able to cross the poverty line, for no fault of their own.

3. The approach of uniformity, for physical and financial achievements, has been changed to one of selectivity.

4. The identification of beneficiaries must be ratified by the village assemblies, as per the guidelines.

5. Efforts to improve the linkages through identifying bodies at district levels for this purpose or through the establishment of District Supply & Marketing Centres.

6. A High Level Committee has been appointed to review the existing administrative arrangements for rural development and poverty alleviation programmes.

7. A new system of concurrent evaluation of current and two year old beneficiaries is being introduced.

The State Governments have also been addressed in this regard to look into and remedy the deficiencies pointed out in the report. The implementation is thus being streamlined and procedures being reviewed to obviate these deficiencies.

Loss to Kharif crop due to scanty rains

*276. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to scanty rains the Kharif crop has been badly affected in many States;

(b) whether this has resulted in drought in most of the States;

(c) whether drought situation has been declared in any State; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Except some parts of the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka which have asked for Central Assistance for continued drought due to delayed/inadequate rainfall, no drought condition has been reported by any other State during the current South West monsoon.

(c) and (d) The Memorandum received from these States are being processed.

Ban on import of edible oils

*277. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose a ban on the import of edible oils; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of wheat and rice in Bihar, Punjab, U.P., West Bengal and Assam

*278. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the total production of wheat, rice and other foodgrains in Punjab, U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Assam in each of the last three years and the current year;